

THE MAR 28 1962

DANVILLE — Mrs. Eileen Hanson today termed as "rank injustice" charges that she beat or neglected residents of the boarding school she operates for mentally retarded children.

She denied the accusations and said they came "out of the blue."

Mrs. Hanson has received a temporary restraining order to prevent the Contra Costa County juvenile control officer from interfering in the operation of the home.

FREE ON BAIL

The 53-year-old woman, who owns and operates Stag Manor School on Kelly Lane, was arrested yesterday on two misdemeanor charges. Trial was set for June 6. She is free on bail.

Beside the criminal charges, she faces accusations by the State Department of Mental Hygiene that she beat some of her youthful wards with leather straps and broom handles and punished some by putting them in tubs of cold water.

The department, which licensed Mrs. Hanson 2½ years ago, is seeking to revoke her license. She has 15 days to seek a hearing on the action.

'WILL REFUTE ALL'

Her attorney, Thomas McBride, said, "In time, we will refute all of the allegations."

He added, "Mrs. Hanson is entitled to far better treatment than she has received at the hands of public authorities . . . We would have appreciated it if (they) . . . would have given Mrs. Hanson the courtesy of the ordinary principles of American justice, . . . an opportunity to face her accusers before any action was taken."

APRIL 2 HEARING

After Mrs. Hanson's arrest, McBride filed for the injunction against Florence Drummond, the county juvenile control officer.

Superior Judge Homer Patterson granted a temporary restraining order and set April 2 for a hearing.

Mrs. Hanson had charged Mrs. Drummond with advising parents to take their children out of Stag Manor.

TRF APR 5 - 1962

Home Operator In License Plea

Mrs. Eileen Hanson has requested a hearing before the State Department of Professional and Vocational Standards Review Board to protect her license for operating a boarding school for mentally retarded children.

The State Department of Mental Hygiene is seeking to revoke the license issued her 2½ years ago to operate Stagg Manor School on Kelly Lane in Danville. The department has charged her with cruelty to some of the youthful patients.

No hearing date has been set, but Deputy Atty. Gen. Jan Stevens said it probably will come after a trial on misdemeanor charges of neglect and cruelty which Mrs. Hanson faces June 6 in Walnut Creek Municipal Court.

Quit Interference, TR D AUG 2 - 1962 Sheriff's Aide Told

MARTINEZ — A Contra Costa Sheriff's juvenile control officer has been legally restrained from inducing parents to remove their children from a boarding school whose owner is accused of beating and neglecting inmates.

Superior Judge Hugh H. Donovan issued the injunction against Mrs. Florence Drummond who was charged by Mrs. Eileen Hanson of causing the withdrawal of 18 children from Stagg Manor School for the Mentally Retarded since Jan. 1.

Mrs. Hanson is scheduled to go to trial in Walnut Creek Municipal Court Sept. 5 for neglecting and abusing children in the Danville boarding school.

Donovan said Mrs. Drummond "should refrain from doing any act injurious to the plaintiff's (Mrs. Hanson) business until such judicial determination is made."

He said trying to induce parents to withdraw their children is outside the scope of her authority.

The defendant had available to her legal remedies,

if the welfare of the inmates were in immediate peril," Donovan said.

Mrs. Drummond was instrumental in bringing charges against Mrs. Hanson after five weeks of intensive investigation initiated on the complaints of parents in Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties.

Abuse Case
TR D MAY 3 1 1962
Has New

Stagg Manor Hearing Set

TR D JUN 5 - 1962

In Martinez

MARTINEZ — Mrs. Eileen Hanson, accused of mistreating children at her Stagg Manor School for the Mentally Retarded at Danville, fights to save her state boarding home license at a public hearing June 28-29 in the Hall of Records.

Revocation will be recommended by the State Department of Mental Hygiene to Jerome Herst, hearing officer assigned by the Division of Administrative Procedure.

The department moved for the license forfeiture in March, after accusing Mrs. Hanson of cruelty toward some of her youthful charges.

Mrs. Hanson denied the charges and demanded the hearing on the state's charges.

Likewise, she and her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, have denied neglect and abuse charges filed by Contra Costa County and will be tried on them by a jury in Walnut Creek Municipal Court Sept. 5.

Abuse Case Has New Defendant

TR D MAY 3 1 1962

WALNUT CREEK — Ronnie Hicks today was named as a defendant in the alleged mistreatment of young students at Mrs. Eileen Hanson's Stagg Manor School for the Mentally Retarded at Danville.

Hicks is to be arraigned on the complaint issued by the district attorney's office tomorrow at 9 a.m. in Walnut Creek Municipal Court.

Mrs. Hanson, Hick's mother-in-law, was arrested on March 27 on charges of neglecting and abusing children in the home, following an investigation by county and state authorities. She has pleaded innocent to the accusations and faces trial Wednesday in the Walnut Creek court.

The decision to also charge Hicks, said Deputy Dist. Atty. William Higham, followed further investigation by the district attorney's office.

Mrs. Hanson

Wins Round

In Civil Suit

TR D MAY 4 - 1962

MARTINEZ — Mrs. Eileen M. Hanson 53, ~~accused of mistreating~~ some of the students at the Stagg Manor School for the Mentally Retarded at Danville, today emerged the victor in the first round of her civil suit against a sheriff's department juvenile control officer.

Superior Judge Hugh H. Donovan, in a memorandum of decision, said he would issue a preliminary injunction ordering the officer, Mrs. Florence Drummond, not to interfere with the operation of the school pending judicial determination of the civil suit or a misdemeanor criminal action involving Mrs. Hanson.

Court Rules

Injunction

IR D APR 10 1962

To Stay

MARTINEZ—A temporary restraining order issued March 27 to prevent Juvenile Control Officer Florence Drummond from interfering with the operation of Stagg Manor School for the Mentally Retarded in Danville was continued indefinitely yesterday.

Contra Costa County Superior Judge Hugh H. Donovan heard testimony that Mrs. Drummond had called at least three parents advising them to take their children out of the school.

He ruled that the injunction, sought by Mrs. Eileen Hanson, owner of the school, will stay in effect until after briefs requesting a permanent injunction and damages in an unspecified amount are submitted.

Mrs. Hanson, 53, faces trial June 6 in Walnut Creek Municipal Court of misdemeanor charges of mistreating some of the students at the school. In addition, The State Department of Mental Hygiene seeks to revoke her license to operate the school.

Testimony Of Welfare Worker Hit

TR D SEP 8 - 1962

WALNUT CREEK — Legal wrangles over the admissibility and applicability of evidence marked the second day of testimony yesterday in the jury trial of two persons charged with mistreating retarded children in a private boarding school in Danville.

Municipal Judge Betsy F. Rahn allowed afternoon testimony by Mrs. Catherine Rollins, social worker with the Santa Clara County Welfare Department, to resume only after a near hour-long legal debate in her chambers with attorneys and principals in the case.

CONFIDENTIAL FILES

The issue was admissibility of evidence from confidential files with which Mrs. Rollins was refreshing her memory.

Attorney Edward L. Merrill, representing Ronald L. Hicks, co-defendant with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Eileen Hanson, operator of the Stagg Manor School, objected several times yesterday that evidence applying only to Mrs. Hanson should not be construed as relating to Hicks in the minds of jurors.

The trial was recessed until Wednesday before completion of direct examination of another prosecution witness, John Barr, supervising consultant with the California Department of Mental Hygiene.

TESTIMONY

Mrs. Rollins' attempts to testify regarding alleged "substandard" conditions at the boarding school met with frequent objections from defense attorneys.

Barr, who said his department oversees the operation and standards of some 400 private boarding schools for the mentally ill and retarded, testified he had made a survey last August at the home operated by Mrs. Hanson, and made an unannounced visit in February after receiving "serious reports."

Barr said he found the home was not up to state standards in the matter of cleanliness, sanitation, amount of food on hand per patient, the content of medical records and building maintenance.

Attorney Charges Elements of Sadism

WALNUT CREEK — Presentation of the prosecution's case against two defendants charged with mistreating retarded children in a Danville private boarding school continued today with the testimony of a mother.

The hearing of witnesses got under way in Walnut Creek Municipal Court yesterday after a day and a half taken to select the jury of four men and eight women.

Defendants are Mrs. Eileen Hanson, operator of the Stagg Manor School, and her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, both of whom pleaded innocent to a Contra Costa Sheriff's Office complaint last March accusing them of abuse, neglect and mistreatment of children left in the school's care.

JURY TRIAL ASKED

Defendants requested the jury trial.

Dept. Dist. Atty. William R. Higham, in his opening statement to the jury yesterday, said he planned to call a number of parents, staff people, doctors, psychologists and others as witnesses, plus some of the school inmates themselves if they can be legally qualified.

At one point, Higham charged "There are actually elements of sadism involved on the part of the defendants."

Defense attorneys Thomas F. McBride and Edward L. Merrill withheld opening statements until presentation of their cases.

SON WAS INMATE

Mrs. Erma L. Drummond of Los Gatos, whose son was a former occupant of the school until she removed him last February, testified yesterday she had found the school "run down," her son in an "increasingly dirty condition" and that his feet were frostbitten when she took him home for a Christmas visit last December.

She testified further that appointments with an orthodontist for his dental care had been neglected by Mrs. Hanson, and that diet arrangements for her son, who was prone to overweight, went from one extreme to the other, resulting in his becoming underweight. She said she finally removed him from the school's care on doctor's orders.

McBride, on cross examination, sought to show that Mrs. Hanson was fully cooperative with Mrs. Drummond in care of the latter's son, and that dissatisfactions which arose over the child's management were the result of difficulties inherent in caring for a retarded child.

Hanson Trial Recessed After Jury Hears New Testimony

TR D SEP 15 1962

WALNUT CREEK—The trial of two defendants charged with mistreating students at Stagg Manor School in Danville recessed until Thursday, after the jury heard four more witnesses yesterday.

Two Los Gatos doctors, Edgar La Veque and Robert Moncrieff, testified concerning weight losses suffered by one of the Santa Clara County boys during his last year and a half at the school and attributed his condition to insufficient nutrition.

John Bruns of Sacramento testified concerning the comparative physical and mental condition of his son, before, during and after his stay at

the private boarding school for retarded children and adults.

More legal wrangles between opposing attorneys prevented completion of testimony yesterday by Sam Murray, a psychologist with the San Juan Unified School District, who examined young Bruns.

Mrs. Eileen Hanson, operator of the school since Oct. 1959, has been charged by the county with mistreatment of the students there. Her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, is a co-defendant.

MEDICAL TEST

New Recess

In Hanson

Jury Trial

TR D SEP 27 1962

WALNUT CREEK — The jury trial of Mrs. Eileen Hanson was held in abeyance for the second consecutive day today pending a medical examination of the principal defendant.

Mrs. Hanson was hospitalized at Kaiser Foundation Hospital Tuesday night for an undisclosed illness.

Mrs. Hanson and her son-in-law are accused of mistreating children under their care at Stagg Manor School for the retarded in Danville.

Judge Betsy F. Rahn of Walnut Creek Municipal Court recessed the trial yesterday following Mrs. Hanson's hospitalization. She has continued Monday, depending upon Mrs. Hanson's condition.

Except for recess periods, the trial has been under way since Sept. 5.

3 Testify

TRD SEP 21 1962
At Hanson

Jury Trial

WALNUT CREEK — The prolonged trial of two defendants for alleged mistreatment of young charges at Stagg Manor School, Danville, resumed a half hour earlier here today after restive jurors sought a speedup in procedure.

Among witnesses yesterday were the mother of a former student at the boarding school for retarded children and adults operated by Mrs. Eileen Hanson, and two former housekeeper-cooks at the school once employed there only briefly.

Mrs. Hanson is principal defendant in the jury trial. The mother related weight loss by her child.

A former housemother-cook was called by the prosecution as a corroborating witness to the condition of a student reportedly whipped with a belt by co-defendant Ronald Hicks.

She said she found the student bleeding and bruised after Hicks left his room.

Hicks' attorney, Edward L. Merrill, began laying a foundation for impeachment in rigorous cross examination, presumably on the basis of his contention that the witness had made conflicting statements to others as to what she actually saw and did.

AFTER TRIAL

State Action On Hanson License Held

MARTINEZ — Action by the state to revoke the license of Mrs. Eileen Hanson to operate a home for mentally retarded children will be postponed until after her trial on child mistreatment charges.

Deputy Atty. Gen. Jan Stevens said the revocation hearing has been moved ahead from Oct. 1 to Dec. 3 in the Hall of Records here.

Mrs. Hanson and her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, have been on trial before a jury in Walnut Creek Municipal Court since Sept. 5, accused of mistreating young charges in her Stagg Manor School at Danville.

The trial was recessed Wednesday until Mrs. Hanson is released from the hospital to which she was admitted for treatment of an undisclosed ailment.

3 Testify In Hanson Jury Trial

TR D SEP 25 1962

WALNUT CREEK — With a few more witnesses yet to be called, the prosecution may rest its case this week in the jury trial of two defendants charged with mistreatment of children at Stagg Manor School for the retarded.

Yesterday's testimony included that of a county sanitarian, a deputy sheriff, and Mrs. Florence Drummond, sheriff's juvenile control officer.

The latter was arresting officer in the county complaint naming Mrs. Eileen Hanson, operator of the Danville school, as defendant. Mrs. Hanson's son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, subsequently was named a co-defendant.

A belt allegedly used to beat children in disciplinary actions at the school was offered in evidence by the prosecution.

Mrs. Drummond acknowledged under cross examination that she previously had advised several parents that the Stagg Manor School was under investigation by both the county and state and that she suggested to parents to take the students home for visits.

Mrs. Hanson's attorney, Thomas McBride, made it a point to note that Mrs. Drummond is under temporary court injunction now to refrain from interfering with the school's operation.

Prosecution Rests In Child Home Case

TR D OCT 1 1962

WALNUT CREEK — The prosecution finally rested its case yesterday in the trial of Mrs. Eileen Hanson and her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks. They are accused of mistreatment of students at the Stagg Manor School for the retarded at Danville.

Except for some recess days, the trial has been under way in Walnut Creek Municipal Court since Sept. 5.

Deputy Dist. Atty. William Higham rested the prosecution's case about noon. The prosecution has been painting a picture of poor nutrition, poor sanitation, and occasional beatings of students at the school.

Mrs. Hanson's attorney, Thomas McBride, led off by calling the registrar of San Francisco State College in an attempt to discredit testimony given by a prosecution witness, Mrs. Marguerite Cone, former teacher at Stagg Manor, earlier in the trial.

During her testimony, Mrs. Cone had said she was a graduate of San Francisco State and received a BA degree.

McBride's witness said college records showed Mrs. Cone as a student but did not reflect that she had completed graduation, nor received the degree.

Attempts by McBride to recall Mrs. Cone from her Danville home to reappear in court were delayed when she

could not be reached immediately.

McBride also called Mr. and Mrs. Everett T. Shaver, high school teachers at Ione, who have a son still enrolled at Stagg Manor. Mrs. Shaver said her son has been happy at the school, that he likes the Hanson family, that he has been well fed and that the home is kept immaculate.

McBride also called four different tradespeople who related favorable impressions of Stagg Manor.

End Near In Record Jury Trial

TR D OCT 9 1962

WALNUT CREEK — The longest Municipal Court trial in Contra Costa County is expected to end this afternoon as eight women and four men face deliberate charges of mistreatment of mentally-retarded children at a privately-operated home in Alamo.

Eight witnesses testified yesterday, bring to more than 50 the total heard in 14 days since Sept. 5.

Judge Betsy Rahn, calendar today was closed.

End Near

In Record

Jury Trial

TRD OCT 9 - 1962

WALNUT CREEK — The longest Municipal Court jury trial in Contra Costa history is expected to end this week as eight women and four men deliberate charges of mistreatment of m e n t a l l y-retarded children at a privately-operated home in Alamo.

E i g h t witnesses testified yesterday, bring to more than 50 the total heard in 14 court days since Sept. 5.

Judge Betsy Rahn, whose calendar today was confined to auto traffic cases, told the jurors to anticipate hearing "rebuttal witnesses if any" tomorrow and taking the case under submission Thursday.

Mrs. Eileen Hanson, accused of neglect and m. streatment of her charges at Stagg Manor boarding home, has denied guilt. She said yesterday she spanked one boy—a habitual runaway—but did not hurt him.

Her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, also accused of mistreating the children, said he was innocent.

Hicks testified yesterday he "shook a broom" at one boy who h a d seriously bitten another. He also said he gave a verbal dressing-down to a runaway in a closed room which caused the child to cry. Earlier in the trial, Mrs. Minnie Hankin, an employe at the home, said she had heard a beating inflicted.

Mrs. Hanson, whose illness delayed part of the trial, has used a wheel chair in court.

Mrs. Hanson Fined \$525 In Home Case

TR F OCT 20 1904
WALNUT CREEK — Mrs. Eileen Hanson, who was convicted last week of mistreating mentally retarded children at her Stagg Manor boarding home in Danville, has been placed on three years probation and fined \$525.

Her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, found guilty during the 16-day jury trial on one count of mistreatment, was placed on probation for one year and fined \$52.50.

The terms of probation, imposed yesterday by Walnut Creek Municipal Judge Betsy FitzGerald Rahn, call for Mrs. Hanson to cooperate in every way with Contra Costa County Health Officer Dr. H. L. Blum in the operation of the home.

Both Hicks and Mrs. Hanson are to comport themselves in "general good behavior."

A hearing before state authorities to determine whether Mrs. Hanson shall retain her license to operate Stagg Manor will be held Dec. 3.

Hanson Trial

TR-D OCT 5 - 1962

Witnesses

Praise School

WALNUT CREEK — The defense continued a procession of witnesses to the stand yesterday to describe Mrs. Eileen Hanson as a maternal, affectionate caretaker of the children placed in her charge at Stagg Manor School.

County officials and prosecution witnesses variously contend that a number of students under her care were underfed and mistreated in the extended jury trial continuing today in Walnut Creek Municipal Court.

The defense called parents of other children in the school to tell that their sons were happy there, and treated kindly.

Defense Atty. Thomas McBride recalled a prosecution witness yesterday, and in rigorous interrogation sought to cast doubt on her credibility by questioning the truth of statements she had made earlier concerning her educational qualifications as a teacher.

Defendant In School Case Heard

TR D OCT 6 - 1962

WALNUT CREEK — Mrs. Eileen Hanson, principal defendant in the Stagg Manor School jury trial over alleged mistreatment of children, took the witness stand in her own defense yesterday.

Questioned by her attorney, Thomas McBride, she calmly related her methods of conducting the school, caring for the children, teaching them "good manners" and added that some of the sanitation problems brought out by the prosecution were the result of a temporary septic tank failure which she tried to remedy immediately.

The defense in early testimony elicited information that 21 acres of the Ethelwyn Watts estate, which encircles the three-acre Stagg Manor School site at Danville, had been sold for \$83,206 and recorded by title insurance as of Jan. 25, 1962.

One of the three "holding" principals was named as J. Stephen Casalina, an Oakland attorney. Yesterday, McBride sought to have Casalina brought into court to testify but was advised by telephone that Casalina would refuse to divulge the principal parties of interest in the land transaction, even if subpoenaed.

Recognizing the attorney-client relationship, prosecutor William Higham, McBride, and attorney Edward Merrill, representing co-defendant Ronald Hicks, all stipulated that Casalina would not be called.

Indications were that the trial, under way since Sept. 5, may go to the jury for decision about mid-week.

Hearing on Hanson License Under Way

TR D DEC 3 - 1962

MARTINEZ—A hearing to determine whether Mrs. Eileen Hanson shall retain her license to conduct Stagg Manor School for mentally retarded children opened here today.

Deputy Atty. Gen. Jan Stevens, representing the State Department of Mental Hygiene, has asked that her license be revoked.

The Division of Administrative Procedure is conducting the hearing, which stems from charges that Mrs. Hanson mistreated some of the children. Harold A. Furst, hearing officer is presiding at the sessions, expected to last about a week in the Hall of Records.

Mrs. Hanson, 54, was convicted Oct. 11 after a 16-day trial in Walnut Creek Municipal Court on two counts of neglect and mistreatment of children in the school. She has filed notice of intention to appeal the conviction, which resulted in a sentence of three years' probation and a \$525 fine.

Mrs. Hanson, who has operated the school on Kelly Lane in Danville since 1959, is represented by Oakland attorneys Robert Dunivan and Thomas Schneider.

on will License

The attorneys claim there is a prejudicial misconduct on the part of the deputy district attorney who tried the case and that evidence which should have been excluded was admitted over objections. Some of the court's rulings constituted prejudicial error they added, the atmosphere created by newspapers publicity made a fair trial impossible and there was a constitutional violation.

Appeal Set In Hanson Conviction

WALNUT CREEK—New attorneys for Mrs. Eileen Hanson of Danville have filed a proposed statement of appeal from her recent conviction on charges of mistreating children in her privately operated school.

The attorneys are Robert D. Dunivan and Thomas Schneider.

The proposed statement claims there was prejudicial misconduct on the part of the deputy district attorney trying the case, that evidence which should have been excluded was admitted over objections, that some of the court's rulings constituted prejudicial error, that the atmosphere created by newspaper publicity made a fair trial impossible, and that there was a constitutional violation.

Court attaches said there is another 15 days to fulfill condition of the proposed appeal, and that the district attorney's office then has five days to offer any proposed amendments, before any formal statement is completed which would send the appeal to Superior Court.

Hanson

Appeal

TR D OCT 30 1962

On File

WALNUT CREEK — Mrs. Eileen Hanson, convicted in Walnut Creek municipal court of mistreatment of mentally retarded children, has filed notice of appeal to superior court.

No basis for the appeal was stated in the preliminary notice, but local court attaches said said attorneys still have until next Monday to file their statement.

A factor in fulfillment of the appeal proceedings may be cost of obtaining the lengthy transcript from the municipal court jury trial, which was one of the longest in county history.

Mrs. Hanson was fined \$525 and placed on three years probation.

The appeal notice does not involve Ronald Hicks, Mrs. Hanson's son-in-law and a co-defendant in the earlier action.

She also substituted attorneys. She is now represented by Robert D. Dunivan, Dunivan and Byers of Hayward; and Thomas Schneider of Oakland.

Hearing on License Und

TR D DEC 3 - 1962

MARTINEZ—A hearing to determine whether Mrs. Helen Hanson shall retain her license to conduct Stagg Man-School for mentally retarded children opened here today.

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License

Attorneys claim there was prejudicial misconduct by the deputy district attorney who tried the case and that evidence which should have been excluded was admitted over objections. The court's rulings contained prejudicial error. Added, the atmosphere created by newspapers published made a fair trial impossible and there was a constitutional violation.

Mrs. Hanson Will Surrender License

FR D DEC 4 - 1962



MARTINEZ — Mrs. Eileen M. Hanson, convicted two months ago of mistreating mentally retarded children, has agreed to surrender her license to operate the Stag Manor boarding school in Danville.

The surprise move by her attorney, Thomas McBride of Concord, stopped a hearing on the state's demand that she forfeit her license a few minutes after it began yesterday in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers.

Deputy Atty. Gen. Jan Stevens of San Francisco said Mrs. Hanson has stipulated she will turn her license over to the State Director of Mental Hygiene by Jan. 1.

FEW INMATES

He explained the institution she has owned and operated since 1959 has only a few inmates left.

Mrs. Hanson was charged March 27 with neglect and abuse after a five weeks investigation by county authorities.

She was convicted last October in Walnut Creek Municipal Court, fined \$525 and placed on three years probation.

Yesterday was to have been the first of seven days of license hearings before hearing officer Harold Furst of the State Division of Administrative Procedure.

TO APPEAL VERDICT

Mrs. Hanson has announced, through two other lawyers, Robert Dunivan and Thomas Schneider, that she intends to appeal her conviction to the Contra Costa Superior Court Appellate Division.

The attorneys claim there was prejudicial misconduct on the part of the deputy district attorney who tried the case and that evidence which should have been excluded was admitted over objections.

Some of the court's rulings constituted prejudicial error they added, the atmosphere created by newspapers publicity made a fair trial impossible and there was a constitutional violation.

Jury Finds Hanson Guilty

TRD OCT 12 1962

WALNUT CREEK — Mrs. Eileen Hanson and her son-in-law, Ronald Hicks, were convicted yesterday of mistreating mentally retarded children in her Stagg Manor boarding home at Danville.

After 16 days of trial, the jury of eight women and four men deliberated five hours before returning with their findings against the pair.

Mrs. Hanson was found guilty on two counts of neglect and mistreatment of children in her charge, and Hicks on one count of mistreatment.

Ironically, the verdict came on the very day Mrs. Hick's marked her 54th birthday.

She will be sentenced Oct. 19 by Municipal Judge Betsy FitzGerald Rahn.

Hicks, however, was sentenced immediately after discharge of the jury, Judge Rahn placing him on probation for a year and fining him \$52.50.

During the 16 days of trial—the longest before a jury in municipal court history in this county—heard a succession of witnesses for and against Mrs. Hicks. Some praised her operation of the home for mentally retarded children, while others said some of her charges were mistreated and underfed.

Defense attorneys Thomas McBride and Ted Merrill moved immediately for a new trial, a plea which was denied by Judge Rahn.